

*Administration of Joseph R. Biden, Jr., 2023*

**Remarks in an Exchange With Reporters Upon Arrival From St. Croix, Virgin Islands**

*January 2, 2023*

*Senate Minority Leader A. Mitchell McConnell*

*Q.* Why is it important to go with Mitch McConnell to Kentucky?

*The President.* It's his State. That's the reason. Because——

*Q.* Why is that significant, to be with McConnell there?

*The President.* We've been friends a long time. I don't—everybody is talking about how significant it is. It has nothing to do about our relationship. It's always been—*[inaudible]*. It's a giant bridge, man. It's a lot of money. It's important.

*South Korea*

*Q.* Mr. President, are you discussing joint nuclear exercises with South Korea right now?

*The President.* No.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:35 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House upon arrival on Marine One. Audio was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

*Categories:* Interviews With the News Media : Exchanges with reporters, White House.

*Locations:* Washington, DC.

*Names:* McConnell, A. Mitchell.

*Subjects:* Infrastructure improvements; News media, Presidential interviews; Senate minority leader.

*DCPD Number:* DCPD202300002.